



The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

Summer 2024 Newsletter

Upcoming IRC Meetings and Events:

August 24: W9JP Indianapolis Radio Club POTA activation. Noon until approx. 3:00 pm at Fort Harrison State Park.

September 13: Don Kirk, WD8DSB, presentation on identifying and tracking down RFI sources.

Ham Radio News:

SECOND ANNUAL “PICNIC AND POTA” IN THE BOOKS

On Saturday, July 27, around 35 area hams and their families gathered at the Cherry Tree Shelter in Fort Harrison State Park for the Second Annual Indianapolis Radio Club’s “Picnic and POTA” event. Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB did a great job purchasing and coordinating the food for the event. A special thanks to “POTA Bob” Bob Konkel, KD9TQH for volunteering to be “Grillmaster” for the event. Bob did a great job!

We had lots of interest from those present about getting on the air from our HF station. Seven operators made 60 contacts.

The same shelter has been booked for next year’s event, on Saturday, July 26, 2025. Here are a couple of photos from the event:



2024-2025 SEASON IRC MEETINGS

The 2024-2025 Schedule of presentations for the Indianapolis Radio Club is practically full. Here is what we have lined up (always subject to change, of course):

September 13: Don Kirk, WD8DSB, on identifying and tracking down RFI sources.

October 11: Bryce Bookwalter, KD9YFY presenting "Backpacking and Ham Radio".

November 8: Steve Van Frank, W9TN on Space Weather

December 13: Annual Holiday Celebration "Pitch-in"

January 10: Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ, Co-Founder of Elecraft (via Zoom)

February 21 (date change due to Valentine's Day): Dave Arland's annual CES update

March 14: Mike Sercey, WA9FDO, talking about his experiences in Armed Forces Radio.

April 11: Dale Hammer, K9NN speaking on the Reverse Beacon Network (RBN) system.

May 9: Currently open. Possibly Club project night.

June 13: Annual Auction

Note that with the exception of the January meeting, all events above will be held at the Salvation Army EDS Facility, 4020 Georgetown Road, Indianapolis.

INDIANAPOLIS RADIO CLUB POTA EVENT NEWS

Mark your calendars for the next Indianapolis Radio Club Parks on the Air (POTA) operating event on Saturday, August 24. We will set up across from the Visitor Center at Fort Harrison State Park, planning to be on the air around noon until 3:00 or so. We will have 2 HF stations on the air. As usual, these are great opportunities for anyone with little or no HF experience to get on the air and have fun. Don't worry about licensing restrictions, as we will have control operators at the radios.

CONGRATULATIONS TO RON COOPER, WB9DKL!

Here's something I noticed in my email pile this past week:

Ron Cooper, WB9DKL, SKCC# 16317, has achieved the coveted 1st generation

SKCC member achievement known far and wide as the Centurion Cx1 award.

The Centurion Cx1 award is earned by SKCC members who work 100 other members, exchanging skcc number and name.

Way to go, Radar!

PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH RADIO ACTIVITIES

Three Indianapolis Radio Club members recently spent around 2 weeks in the scenic mountains of northeast New Mexico demonstrating amateur radio to around 200 Scouts and adult leaders. Jim Brown, W0RLD, David Spoelstra, N9KT, and Ken Bandy, KJ9B were set up daily on the porch of the “Tooth of Time Traders”. Jim served as host, giving an overview of what was going on to those that paused. David was mainly demonstrating satellite radio, and Ken had a VHF/UHF station set up as well as an HF station making primarily FT8 contacts. The three stayed on site at the Scout Ranch, each in a 10’ x 12’ semi-permanent tent, and dined with the Scouts and leaders in the dining halls of the facility. The local wildlife, primarily deer, were obviously used to having people around, as they were often observed munching on crab apples from the plentiful trees on site regardless of human activity in the area.

The website that Jim and David put together as a reference for the Scouts can be found at <https://radioscouting.website/> To see a sampling of some of the photos taken during their stay, point your browser to <https://photos.app.goo.gl/54rthGdwWDoEXGgC6> If you want the “full monty” of over 300 photos and videos, drop a note to ken.kj9b@gmail.com to request the link.

UPCOMING CENTRAL INDIANA TESTING SESSIONS (check with sponsor before planning to attend)

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
Date: Aug 03 2024
Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: William F. Wootton
(812) 876-8689
Email: KC9ACL@ARRL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: First United Church - Call or email ahead due to COVID-19
2420 E 3rd St
Register at 11:30am
Testing at 12 NOON
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio club W9JP
Date: Aug 10 2024
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: James K. Rinehart
(317) 721-1458
Email: testing@indyradioclub.org
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Rd
Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Lafayette IN 47901-1141
Sponsor: Tippecanoe County VE Team
Date: Aug 10 2024
Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Elizabeth M. Flowers
Email: tippecanoeveteam@gmail.com
VEC: LAUREL VEC
Location: The Bindery Artist Studios
Pre-Registration Required
Visit Website to Pre-Register
511 Ferry St
Lafayette IN 47901-1141
Website: <https://www.tcvet.info/>

Franklin IN 46131-9733
Sponsor: Mid State Amateur Radio Club
Date: Aug 17 2024
Time: 9:30 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Jacqueline M. Frederick

Email: vetestingmarc@yahoo.com
VEC: LAUREL VEC
Location: Johnson County REMC
750 International Dr
Franklin IN 46131-9733

Anderson IN 46016-2238
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: Aug 20 2024
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Jeffrey L. Dyer
(317) 775-3415
Email: k9dyr@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EMA EOC
200 N Delaware St
Anderson IN 46016-2238
Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club/>

Gas City IN 46933-1155
Sponsor: GCARC
Date: Aug 27 2024
Time: 5:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: Mitchell D. Miller
(765) 661-5893
Email: mitchmiller55@gmail.com
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: EMA Building
3921 S Garthwaite Rd
Pre-register only, contact ahead
Gas City IN 46933-1155
Website: <https://www.grantarc.net/>

Bloomington IN 47401-5337
Sponsor: Bloomington ARC Inc
Date: Sep 07 2024
Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: William F. Wootton

(812) 876-8689
Email: KC9ACL@ARRL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: First United Church - Call or email ahead due to COVID-19
2420 E 3rd St
Register at 11:30am
Testing at 12 NOON
Bloomington IN 47401-5337

Greenfield IN 46140-9654
Sponsor: Hancock County ARC
Date: Sep 07 2024
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: David Keiser
(317) 440-8486
Email: kc9urp@hrtc.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Hancock EMA EOC
640 South Franklin St
Greenfield IN 46140-9654
Website: <https://w9atg.org/ve-testing2/>

Indianapolis IN 46218-2169
Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio club W9JP
Date: Sep 14 2024
Time: 12:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)
Contact: James K. Rinehart
(317) 721-1458
Email: testing@indyradioclub.org
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility
4020 Georgetown Rd
Indianapolis IN 46218-2169

Anderson IN 46016-2238
Sponsor: Anderson Repeater Club
Date: Sep 17 2024

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: Jeffrey L. Dyer
(317) 775-3415
Email: k9dyr@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Madison County EMA EOC
200 N Delaware St
Anderson IN 46016-2238
Website: <http://www.andersonrepeater.club/>

FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at http://mail.indyradioclub.org/mailman/listinfo/ircnews_indyradioclub.org.

SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at kj9b@arrl.net

Signals from the Past:

From the June, 1964 *Amachewer*:

In keeping with the “progress” of the state of the art of amateur radio, the following excerpts from a bulletin to all Army MARS members is very interesting:

“... an extensive study (by Dept. of the Army) ... concluded that the requirement for a sound and undiminished CW capability ... will continue indefinitely and that pertinent doctrine, training and equipment must be kept compatible with this requirement ... CW continues to be used in a multitude of tactical radio nets where a high degree of reliability is required ... (It) is used extensively ... as a standby or backup for RTTY and voice during periods of ... interference, and atmospheric disturbances. The use of CW ... has increased (in) importance of this capability since it is frequently the only effective means of communication due to system or equipment incompatibility, language barriers and frequency congestion.”

In other words, CW continues to be the BASIC method of radio communications.

Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Hendricks County Tailgate Hamfest: August 10, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at Avon United Methodist Church. Contact [Ken Kayler, KC9SQD](#) for more information.
- W9DXCC DX Convention: September 14 at Chicago Marriott Naperville. Go to <https://w9dxcc.com/> for more information.

2024 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – president@indyradioclub.org
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - vp@indyradioclub.org
- Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - secretary@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Kyle Bandy, KC9GLR - board@indyradioclub.org
- Dir. at large: Kevin Colbert, KD9MNB - board@indyradioclub.org
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - w9jp.trustee@indyradioclub.org

To Pay Dues or Donate to the club, go to
<https://tinyurl.com/irc-dues-payment>

Or Scan this QR Code with your smartphone:

